

## **BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XC861

Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Surfclam and Ocean Quahog Fisheries;

Notice that Vendor Will Provide Year 2014 Cage Tags

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric

Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of vendor to provide fishing year 2014 cage tags.

SUMMARY: NMFS informs surfclam and ocean quahog individual transferable quota (ITQ) allocation holders that they will be required to purchase their fishing year 2014 (January 1, 2014 – December 31, 2014) cage tags from the National Band and Tag Company. The intent of this notice is to comply with regulations for the Atlantic surfclam and ocean quahog fisheries and to promote efficient distribution of cage tags.

ADDRESSES: Written inquiries may be sent to: Regional Administrator, National Marine Fisheries Service, Northeast Regional Office, 55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930-2298.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Anna Macan, Fishery Management Specialist, (978) 281-9165; fax (978) 281-9161.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Federal Atlantic surfclam and ocean quahog fishery regulations at 50 CFR 648.77(b) authorize the Regional Administrator of the Northeast Region, NMFS, to specify in the Federal Register a vendor from whom cage tags, required under

the Atlantic Surfclam and Ocean Quahog Fishery Management Plan (FMP), shall be purchased.

Notice is hereby given that National Band and Tag Company of Newport, Kentucky, is the

authorized vendor of cage tags required for the fishing year 2014 Federal surfclam and ocean

quahog fisheries. Detailed instructions for purchasing these cage tags will be provided in a letter

to ITQ allocation holders in these fisheries from NMFS within the next several weeks.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.

Dated: September 26, 2013

Kelly Denit,

Acting Deputy Director,

Office of Sustainable Fisheries,

National Marine Fisheries Service.

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2